

# DEI redefines mission on campus

**RACHEL ADAMSON**  
Campus News Editor | @rachadamsonn

**KEJI AKINMOLADUN**  
Chief Reporter | @OluwatoyinKeji

The Northwest Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is working to redefine its mission and purpose to be more inclusive.

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Justin Mallett said DEI is establishing what it should look like to create a new foundation.

“I think that (the mission) has been lost in translation across campus, and right now, what we are doing is bringing that back to the forefront,” Mallett said. “Once that is established, then I think the institution can then take steps to figure out what the overall infrastructure is going to be.”

After DEI reestablishes its mission, it will look to see where the need for possible new positions is.

DEI has four filled positions, one position being interim vice president. The DEI equity coordinator position has been vacant since Gabrielle Fields left Jan. 31.

“Once we redefine our mission, redefine some terms, create a foundation, then we can focus on how many people we need in positions and different things like that,” Mallett said.

The original setup of DEI included diversity, accessibility and Title XI and Title VI. Mallett said Title IX and Title VI are being handled by the University’s legal representative Hush Blackwell.

Mallett hosted a presentation April 8 with faculty, staff and the Maryville community. Mallett’s goal was to “eliminate the old” process of DEI.

“We don’t want to use the term student of color anymore because of the way it is portrayed here on this campus,” Mallett said. “What we want everyone to start using is underrepresented.”

In the presentation, Mallett also addressed why underrepresented students often don’t feel welcome in the community.

SEE DEI | A5



HAILEY HOWARD | TOWER YEARBOOK

The Director of Diversity and Inclusion Justin Mallett speaks at a forum Aug. 24. DEI is working reestablish its purpose on campus.

## NEWS BRIEF

### Sexual Assault reported in Tower Suites

A sexual assault was reported April 15. The University Police Department gathers that the sexual assault happened Jan. 12 inside Tower Suites after a party.

The victim, who is a Northwest student, knew the offender. University Police Chief Clarence Green said they are investigating.

“We are providing some resources to the survivor to make sure that they are able to recover from this incident,” Green said.

The victim does not know if they want to go forward with criminal charges. Green said the case has been given to the University’s Title IX office for further investigation.

Green said the suspect has not been taken into custody at this stage in the investigation..



Senior Dominic Gilliam and his line brothers perform at their Neophyte Presentation for the Iota Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. April 13.

AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

# Iota Theta holds second Neophyte Presentation

**KEJI AKINMOLADUN**  
Chief Reporter | @OluwatoyinKeji

Family and friends awaited the arrival of the new members of the Iota Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. April 12 at Wabash Park.

The Iota Theta Chapter is a chapter composed of three schools including Northwest, Missouri Western and Truman State University.

The Neophyte Presentation introduced five new members to the Iota Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.: senior Dominic Gilliam, sophomore Richard Venerable, junior Jeighlon Cornell (Missouri Western), junior Keyshawn Young (Truman State) and senior Stanley Branch (Missouri Western).

This is the second Neophyte Presentation at Northwest for the Iota Theta Chapter since being reinstated. The chapter was dormant for nearly 20 years before making a comeback spring 2017.

The Neophytes wore jumpsuits with their fraternity letters painted on the front and their number on the back. They arrived, along with their Prophytes, at Wabash Park on top of a tan Ford Explorer.

“You have to stand tall to be a Que Dog,” the Neophytes chanted during the presentation.

Iota Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. President and Missouri Western alumnus Donovan Gilliam is known as the dean of the new members. Donovan Gilliam said it was a struggle getting to where they are now, but he was impressed with how everything unfolded.

“This is actually microscopic to the actual things that we could do, but for what we came up with, I’m very proud,” Donovan Gilliam said. “I’m going to love my fraternity to the day I die. I’m proud of these boys; they worked hard.”

Dominic Gilliam, the younger brother of Donovan Gilliam, said it’s surreal that his brother is his dean.

“There is friendly jokes that he’s two years older than me in real life, and he’s two years older than me in our fraternity,” Dominic Gilliam said. “We’ve both been wanting to do it (pledge Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.) for years. We thought we were going to do it together (but) that didn’t happen. He’s been wanting to do it since high school; I’ve been wanting to do since I’ve got to college.”

Donovan Gilliam said he is thankful for everyone who came to the presentation and showed support.

“I love my black community, overall I love people in general,” Donovan Gilliam said. “I love everybody that came out here and support because we need more support out here with the black communities and organizations. Black power.”

Venerable’s father is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., making Venerable a legacy. He said his father has taught him about the fraternity his entire life.

“I feel that my father has been grooming me to be a Que my whole life, and it basically helped with many battles I’ve faced in my life,” Venerable said. “Getting closer and closer every day to being welcomed into the fraternity, I definitely found more reason to why I wanted to be an Omega man.”

Venerable said there should be other reasons why someone wants to be in a sorority or fraternity not just because they’re a legacy if they are one.

“Being a legacy is not the only thing you should take to heart when becoming a Que or any fraternity,” Venerable said. “It’s really finding something in yourself that really makes you want to do it and what is going to be better about yourself.”

SEE IOTA THETA | A5



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior Jeighlon Cornell from Truman State University (behind) shows Northwest Sophomore Richard Venerable (front) where to throw the Que sign.

Northwest Missouri’s oldest and largest independently-owned and operated bank.

**NODAWAY VALLEY BANK**

Maryville660-562-3232

Mound City660-442-3131

Savannah816-324-3158

St. Joseph816-364-5678

Member FDIC

AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1914.

PLEASE RECYCLE



# France natives reflect on cathedral fire

**TUCKER FRANKLIN**  
Assistant Sports Editor | @thereal\_tuckerf

On April 15, 850 years of history and a symbol of global Catholicism went up in flames as the historic Notre Dame Cathedral was massively devastated.

Notre-Dame de Paris, meaning “Our Lady of Paris,” is considered to be the pinnacle of French-Gothic architecture and housed important Christian artifacts such as the Crown of Thorns and a piece of the original crucifix.

The fire that ravished the Paris cathedral lasted for 15 hours while over 400 firefighters contained the blaze. While this event transpired away from Maryville, its impact was felt right here.

Northwest tennis graduate assistant Romain Boissinot is a native of France. The Le Pellenn native came to Northwest to play tennis in 2014 and has stayed to help tennis coach Mark Rosewell with the team.

Boissinot explained the relevance of the building and what it means to him.

“Notre Dame represents the history of France; this is one of the most famous monuments in the world,” Boissinot said. “To me, that is really a part of our history that burned. Watching it from afar is a weird feeling; it increases, even more, the sadness as I am not in my home country and make you miss your country even more.”

Some of the most prominent features of the ancient building were destroyed during the blaze. The central spire, that was built in the 19th century, collapsed. Along with the spire, the 13th-century oak roof, commonly referred to as “the forest” because it took a forest to build, was also turned to ashes.

The start of the fire was described by officials as an accident, and they do not believe there was any malice involved.

Freshman tennis athlete Louis Compas, like Boissinot, is a native of France. Compas said his best memory of the Cathedral was passing by it in Paris on the way to see his sister while she was studying in the city. During the hour and a half



THIERRY MALLET | AP PHOTO

In this image made available on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 flames and smoke rise from the blaze at Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, Monday, April 15, 2019. An inferno that raged through Notre Dame Cathedral for more than 12 hours destroyed its spire and its roof but spared its twin medieval bell towers, and a frantic rescue effort saved the monument’s “most precious treasures,” including the Crown of Thorns purportedly worn by Jesus, officials said Tuesday.

drive, Compas remembered being captivated by its grandeur.

“Notre Dame is a symbol of France,” Compas said. “It represents the history and the legacy of every man and woman who lived on this land before and created this beautiful country I grew up in.”

When tragedy struck, the news moved fast. Compas said he was in contact with his loved ones back in France when he heard what was happening.

“It was terrible,” Compas said. “I knew, thanks to my parents. I was talking with them on the phone and they were watching the news live. They were shocked. I felt really stunned and yet very connected to the event and extensively to my people.”

Things don’t stop for the ten-

nis team as the men will be in action April 19 when they travel to Fulton for a non-conference match against William Woods. Boissinot said with the tragedy he doesn’t expect it to get in the way of his work.

“I don’t think it will affect the way I work with the team,” Boissinot said. “It is a very sad event but it (won’t) change my daily life.”

Firefighters were able to save the iconic bell towers that were made famous in Victor Hugo’s tale “The Hunchback of Notre Dame” along with the elaborate stone façade.

With so many people discussing the Notre Dame and the events that took place, Boissinot said he wants people to know the influence the historical structure has.

“The main thing was more to explain to other people the impor-

tance it has in our history and how long Notre Dame has been there,” Boissinot said.

For Compas, this event, while devastating, brought out a sense of pride for his country and an eerie familiar feeling of the past.

“I feel like we always connect to our roots in the darkest moments,” Compas said. “I felt this sense of belonging and patriotism as I did during the dreadful terrorist attacks of 2015 in Paris. It is a weird feeling to describe; the destruction of such a symbol made me feel like a part of me was burning as well.”

In the aftermath of the accident, teams are surveying the structural integrity of the cathedral and will attempt to preserve as much of the building as they can. French Interi-

or Minister Christophe Castaner explained to reporters it will take “days and months” to repair the damages.

French President Emmanuel Macron has said he wants the cathedral rebuilt in five years. Meanwhile, there have already been millions of private donations along with 10 million euros (\$11.3 million) from Île-de-France and 50 million euros (\$56.45 million) from Paris City Hall for rebuilding efforts.

“This is a virtue I love about my country: we always know how to rise from ashes and I am convinced we will restore this amazing patrimony symbol of our common roots and heritage,” Compas said.

## REGISTER FOR SUMMER CLASSES AT STLCC

Register today for summer classes at STLCC. STLCC offers a variety of transferable summer classes at all four campuses and online. Sessions start on May 21 (3-week and 11-week) and June 10 (6-week and 8-week). Registration is now open, so don’t delay, get the classes you need to catch up or get ahead.

**STLCC.EDU/SUMMER**

**BANKING WHEREVER WHENEVER**

Download our FREE Mobi-CBT app to check your balance, deposit checks, and make transfers on the go! Plus, showing your school spirit is easy with your FREE Bearcats Debit Card.

660-582-7454 | [GoCitizens.bank](http://GoCitizens.bank)

24-Hours  
660.582.3104

**COMPLETE AUTOBODY REPAIR & TOW SERVICE**

*“Pulling for Northwest Missouri for over 54 years.”*

## WALKER Body Shop & Towing Service

Teach an activity!

- Canoe
- Gymnastics
- English Riding
- Softball
- Basketball
- Hockey
- Lacrosse
- Art
- Theatre
- Dance
- Pottery

Call us today!  
1-800-997-4347

**Come teach your passion this summer.**

Looking for males and females to join our staff at Tripp Lake camp for Girls in Poland, Maine. Positions run June to August. Apply online at [www.tripplakecamp.com](http://www.tripplakecamp.com)



# Professor earns Governor's Award

SAMANTHA COLLISON  
Chief Reporter | @SammieCollison

As students with hoodies pulled low over their eyes and coffees in hand file into a computer science lab at 8 a.m., their professor enters with spirits high, opening his lesson with a pun about pointers.

Trying to make the best of a dreaded early morning class, Computer Science and Information Systems Associate Professor Michael Rogers' students are a tough crowd, but a slide featuring a Spongebob meme gets a few smirks and a snort from the back row.

In addition to always trying to engage with students, Rogers received the 2019 Governor's Award for Excellence in Education for his contributions to the department's curriculum.

According to a University news release, the Governor's Award is given annually to an outstanding four-year university faculty member.

Rogers, who has taught at Northwest for 10 years, specializes in app development, game development and virtual and augmented reality technology.

Department Chair of Computer Science and Information Systems Carol Spradling said she nominated Rogers for the award because he is adept at keeping up with changing technology.

Spradling said Rogers brought new technology into three classes last year, as well as attending several conferences, paid for out of his own pocket, to bring industry knowledge back to the University.

"We are constantly updating our courses," Spradling said. "We're in what we call a cutting-



SAMANTHA COLLISON | NW MISSOURIAN

Computer Science and Information System Associate Professor Michael Rogers was awarded the 2019 Governor's Award for Excellence in Education April 4.

edge field, but Michael (Rogers) I define as on the bleeding edge. He's ahead of everybody else."

Rogers introduced app development courses to the University several years ago, and he said they are his most interesting courses to teach.

"I'm teaching an independent study in watch OS, which is like the operating systems for the Apple Watch," Rogers said. "So that's really interesting to me because there's all these subtle variations

between the iPhone and the watch."

Rogers said while what he's teaching changes, he hopes he never stops trying to entertain students, even if he doesn't always get a laugh.

"I figure people should be having a good time while they're learning," Rogers said. "It should be a positive experience, and I try to make my classes as inviting as possible."

Rogers said he hopes his students also hold onto a sense of curiosity.

"I hope they have that sense of

joy of exploration because sometimes it gets beaten out of people at University, and that's a shame," Rogers said. "But the really best students, it's in their DNA, and they never lose it."

Rogers said his most curious students end up teaching him new things because they're always bringing new technology, websites and ideas to him.

While flattered by the award, Rogers said he measures success less in accolades and more by stu-

dent growth and learning. He also said he hopes that his influence on the curriculum leaves a lasting positive impact on the University.

"Every one of us just gives the curriculum a little nudge," Rogers said. "If there are rocks in a stream, every molecule of water that goes by has no effect, but collectively, the rock ends up being smooth. I think that all of us contribute something to the curriculum to make it a little better."

## Missouri concealed carry bill passes House floor

KATIE STEVENSON  
Community News Editor | @KatieSStevenson

The Missouri House of Representatives gave initial approval to a bill that would allow concealed carry of firearms on college campuses for faculty April 2.

House Bill 258 is sponsored by Rep. Jered Taylor (R-Mo.) along with a second piece of legislation that would allow students to carry on college campuses as well.

"I think the underlying bill is a good idea, but then adding my legalization, my amendment, I think makes it better," Taylor said. "It gives not only faculty and staff but now it also allows students to

carry concealed weapons on college campuses."

The bill would only apply to people who have a concealed carry weapons permit, but a person who has a permit is not required to carry.

"It is not requiring anyone to carry, it is just giving them the opportunity if they so choose too as long as they are law-abiding citizens and they go through the training," Taylor said.

Taylor said he proposed the bill because it would allow students to protect themselves.

"We are seeing a huge increase in sexual assault and violent crime on college campuses, and I want to

be able to give people the ability to protect themselves in those situations," Taylor said. "Fifteen percent of women are being raped on campus, and it is a God-given and constitutionally secured right to defend yourself in one of those situations, so I want to give students the ability to do that."

According to RAINN, 11.2% of all college students experience rape or sexual assault.

According to the Columbia Missourian, during the debate April 2 Rep. Tracy McCreery (D-Mo.) said she did not believe the bill would create a safer environment on campuses. She said she also took issue with the idea that wom-

en would have guns to protect them from sexual assault as most cases involve someone the victim knows.

Deb Lavender (D-Mo.) echoed McCreery's statement saying guns would not stop rapes.

"If you want to stop sexual assaults, teach boys to stop assaulting women," Lavender said during the debate.

Taylor said he hopes this bill will cause a decrease in crime across Missouri college campuses as it has been effective in other states.

"Kansas saw a 60% decrease in violent crimes on campus, they've seen an overall decrease in crimes in general on their campus," Tay-

lor said. "(In) Texas they've seen similar numbers because it is a deterrent when criminals know individuals are able to stop them not to commit that crime."

Taylor said he believes this bill will also give immediate protection instead of individuals having to wait for emergency responders.

"Whereas they (criminals) know that they can go into other areas, gun free zones, that there is no one to stop them until law enforcement arrives, which is five, 10, 12 minutes away on average in the state of Missouri when your life is being threatened immediately," Taylor said.

## Worship in Maryville

**Hub Bible Church**  
• Sunday Mornings 10:30 •  
101 E. 4th (Corner of 4th and Main)

*We Will Be Your Church Away From Home*

Brand New Church  
Sundays: 1:30pm For Worship (101 E. 4th, Maryville, MO)  
All Northwest Students Are Welcome

pastorjimpearce@gmail.com  
maryvillehub.com

Free Counseling By Appointment If You Have Any Need At All  
Call Pastor Jim At (660) 853-8759

**First Baptist Church**

**Join Us On Sundays:**  
9:30 a.m. Bible Study  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service  
6:30 p.m. Evening Bible Study

Joe Ledbetter, Pastor  
121 E. Jenkins St. Maryville, MO 64468

In their 1500-year history, Benedictines have been known for their hospitality, and the monks of Conception Abbey are no exception. People of all faiths are always welcome to join the monks for prayer.

For a complete listing of our daily prayer schedule, visit [www.conceptionabbey.org/guests](http://www.conceptionabbey.org/guests)

**Conception Abbey**

**Country Side Christian Church**  
SHOW PEOPLE JESUS

**Sunday Mornings 10AM**  
Coffee & Donuts at 9:30AM  
24899 Icon Rd, Maryville, MO 64468  
(660) 582-8872

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church**

Sundays at 9 a.m.  
901 North Main

**Sunday music provided by Northwest students**

PRIEST: Sid Breese  
SSBreese@aol.com, or call 816-262-4958

**Need a ride?** Call Jody 215-0734

[www.saintpaulsmaryville.org](http://www.saintpaulsmaryville.org)  
[www.facebook.com/stpaulsmaryville](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmaryville)

**Hope Lutheran Church**  
931 S. Main St.  
[www.MaryvilleHopeLCC.org](http://www.MaryvilleHopeLCC.org)  
**All are Welcome > Christ Centered**  
Bible Study 9 am—Worship 10 am  
660.582.3262

**First Christian Church**  
Disciples of Christ  
*WHERE LIFE MEETS LOVE*  
SUNDAYS:  
8 A.M First Service  
9 A.M. Discipleship Class  
10 A.M. Second Service  
201 West Third, Maryville  
660.582.4101  
**Rev. Craig Kirby-Grove**  
Campus Contact: Deena Pynter  
660.541.1336

**WORSHIP WITH US**

First United Methodist Church

The Church at 1st & Main

[www.maryvillefumc.org](http://www.maryvillefumc.org)

Transforming your world by living faith.

**Lutheran Campus Center**  
624 College Ave.  
[www.MaryvilleHopeLCC.org](http://www.MaryvilleHopeLCC.org)  
660.582.3262 \* Open 10 am—9 pm  
Christ Centered \* All are Welcome  
Free Dinner & Weekly Bible Studies

**Wesley Student Center**  
Midweek Worship  
9:00 Wednesday Nights  
Free dinner 6 PM Tuesday followed by Bible Study  
*All Are Welcome!*

Travis Dimmitt  
Campus Minister  
549 W. 4th (660-582-2211)  
(wesley@nwmissouri.edu)  
[www.northwestwesley.com](http://www.northwestwesley.com)  
**Facebook.com/northwestwesley**

**ADVERTISE YOUR CHURCH**  
**660.562.1635**



OUR VIEW:

# Guns not necessary for protection

The Missouri House of Representatives has passed House Bill 258 which allows concealed carry of firearms on campus for faculty. Sponsor of the bill Rep. Jered Taylor (R-Mo.) is adding an amendment to it which would allow students the same rights, stating it's for their safety.

It seems more like a meager attempt at furthering the reach of the Second Amendment than it does for the protection of students about to be sexually assaulted. Taylor is using the success of the approved bill pertaining to faculty to pass this amendment.

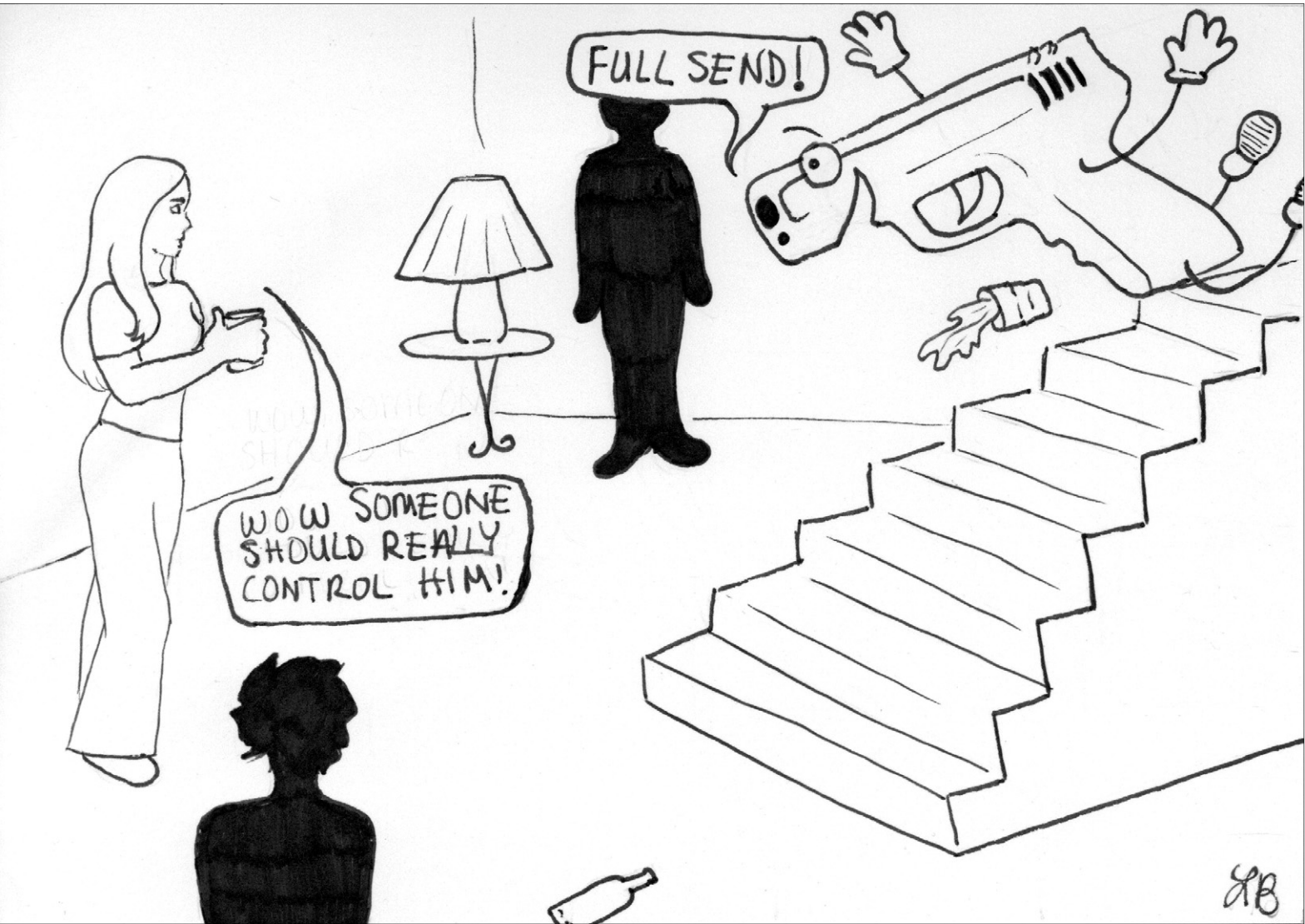
The number of reported forcible sex offenses increased by 11% between 2015 and 2016 from 8,000 to 8,900, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

While the numbers are staggering, it is important to remember the data is only for reported crimes. This means the increase could either reflect an actual increase in forcible sex crimes or an increase in the number of people who actually reported the crime when it occurred.

The social climate has changed, especially toward victims. With movements like #MeToo, people are better educated and can recognize the signs of an unsafe environment while also allowing victims a platform for their voices to be heard.

Sexual assaults are more common on college campuses due to the use of alcohol, drugs, peer pressure and the ability to report the crime, according to the Office on Women's Health.

Seven out of 10 sexual assault cases are committed by someone the victim knows, according to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network. One out of three women will experience rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner



LEAH BRUCE | NW MISSOURIAN

ner in their lifetime, according to the National Organization for Women New York City.

The crime isn't typically between strangers where a person's guard is up. The usual case revolves around those where the victim is unwilling to report, much less fight their partner. That emotional connection plays more of a factor into

whether or not the victims would be able to injure or kill the person assaulting them.

In a study conducted by California State University, more than 80% of women did not feel safer on campus with concealed weapons, did not want qualified individuals to be able to carry a gun on campus, and did not think guns would endorse

or maintain a greater sense of campus safety.

Even if this amendment for students passes, it also allows the same rights to sexual assaulters on campus. It does not discriminate.

It's simply naïve to believe victims would be the only ones benefiting from being allowed to carry a gun. If it were to pass, it could pos-

sibly aid the sexual assaulter against unsuspecting students who can't afford or don't want to carry weapons.

Instead of trying to justify college students having concealed weapons, consider taking Deb Laverdard's (D-Mo.) advice from the debate about teaching boys to stop assaulting women.

# Native American history needs to be taught accurately



James Christensen  
Opinion Columnist  
@jameschris1701

As students, we learn about the issues leading to the Civil War and the effects of the Nazis during the 1930s and 1940s. Yet, it is rare to learn about Native Americans outside of the context of the Pilgrims or as groups that caused conflict in the American West.

Unfortunately, the portrayal of Native Americans is often stereotypical, inaccurate or outdated.

In an article from Pacific Standard, Sarah Shear, a professor of education at Penn State University discovered that state standards regard-

ing Native Americans only view them as a population that existed before 1900, when there are still thriving Native American populations throughout the United States.

This means most people believe these groups no longer exist even though they do, mainly in places like South Dakota and Oklahoma. This lack of education allows future Americans to continue a system of suppression, erasure and lack of information about the Native Americans from the history books.

The study of Native American history allows a student to explore a rich and complex system of traditions that have been established over thousands of years. At the same time, it is also a history that has become tainted by exploitation of Native American populations under the

system of settler colonialism.

Getting American college students to grapple with the complexities of Native American history is one of the many challenges of teaching in 21st-century college classrooms.

Settler colonialism seeks to replace the original population of the colonized territory with a new society of settlers. Teaching students about this form of colonization is the least we can do, not only as educators but also as people of the Midwest as a way to acknowledge what happened to these groups.

This is further exemplified by the fact if we do not teach students about it, it is like we as a society are trying to erase what happened and not pay reparations to what our ancestors did to the Native Americans. This conversation needs to be-

gin while students are still in middle school or high school to create these foundations so college professors can go further in depth on these topics. While there are some institutions that do provide Native American studies as a major or minor, a majority of institutions only have one or two courses that even address the plight of the Native Americans.

In an article from the Organization of American Historians, Gregory D. Smithers wrote of how these state standards limited the education students received in the K-12 system.

"I've lost count of the number of students who've graduated from public schools in Virginia and expressed frustration at how 'standards of learning' rubrics and bureaucratic metrics narrowed their high school history education," Smithers said.

"From a young age, these students still learn that 'in 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue' and sit through simplistic lessons about Squanto and the origins of Thanksgiving."

Smithers went on to elaborate on how this generic education hinders a student's development of critical thinking skills.

This might count as 'patriotic history,' but the dumbing down of Native American history in K-12 classrooms leaves students ill-prepared for the type of critical thinking skills needed in college classrooms and, in the long-term, imperils, rather than strengthens, American democracy," Smithers said.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:  
NWMISSOURIANS.COM**

# Off campus recycling should be easily accessible



Abbey Hugo  
Copy Editor  
@abbey\_hugo

Northwest is known for being green in more than one way, clearly dedicating itself to sustainability and going green environmentally.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for living off campus.

A second place finish in Recyclemania, a recycling competition between 600 universities, multi-time Missouri Recycling Award and a 2017 American Association of State Colleges and Universities Sustainability and Sustainable Development Award are just a few of the green badges of honor Northwest holds, according to the North-

west Website and Sustainability Manual.

Students are almost never more than a stone's throw away than those handy dandy color-coordinated recycling bins. With those bins seeming more convenient than trash cans most of the time, it's almost harder not to recycle than it is to recycle while living on campus.

When students move off campus, it becomes far more difficult to recycle. In turn, it is no longer a priority for most students.

The hassle of separating their trash and delivering it to the recycling center or towing it to campus is often enough to dissuade students from even trying.

Honestly, I can't blame them. Everyone knows the weight of college student's laziness far exceeds that of any polar bear that may die

in the process.

Not-so-surprisingly, the easier a community makes it to recycle, the more likely people are to do it, according to HowStuffWorks.

Campus gives students recycling training wheels, which students grow dependent on and likely recycle simply out of convenience. When in the community, the same measures aren't taken to encourage students to recycle.

But with a few simple steps, the city of Maryville can ease the difficulty of recycling, and as a result, ease our concerns about the future of our planet. And our planet is worth that additional effort.

The most needed improvements are access to curbside recycling pickup and increased numbers of recycling receptacles.

Recycling can't get much more

convenient than putting the recycling outside and then having it whisked away. If recycling services were as easy to sign-up for as garbage services, far more would be interested. Give the people pick up, and the recycling will come — or go, in this instance.

For every Dumpster on campus, there is a recycling receptacle as well. If the same were true throughout the community, the city's would see similar results and people would have more opportunities to recycle.

If more accessible places existed for students who dispose of their trash while in apartments, students would literally be face to face with the decision to recycle every time they took out their trash.

Northwest takes pride in its recycling efforts, taking every op-

portunity to boast about it, sharing an open sustainability plan and having clear markers of our recycling efforts in every main building, those vibrant trash sorting stations namely.

Students should take pride in Northwest's efforts and put in effort worthy of pride themselves. The same goes for Maryville.

While Northwest "green" is constantly staring students in the face on campus, off campus, it is out of sight, out of mind.

Admittedly, additional recycling services can be costly, but awareness, generally, is not.

Additional recycling promotion and education throughout town could do wonders to plant the seed of recycling in minds of students no longer as immersed in Northwest's on-campus green culture.

## STAFF NORTHWEST MISSOURIAN

An Independent Student Newspaper since 1914.

800 University Drive, Wells Hall  
Maryville, MO, 64468

Your first copy of the Northwest  
Missourian is free.  
Additional copies are 25¢ each.

Newsroom: (660) 562-1224  
Advertising: (660) 562-1635  
Circulation: (660) 562-1528  
Fax: (660) 562-1521

www.nwmissourianews.com  
northwestmissourian@gmail.com

### ADVERTISING STAFF

Ryan Griesinger, Design Manager  
Madi Nolte, Advertising Graphic Artist  
Hayley Brown, Advertising Graphic Artist  
Cora Stout, Advertising Graphic Artist  
Sage Beers, Account Executive  
Katie Hall, Account Executive  
Allison Binder, Account Executive  
Maddie Baird, Account Executive  
Makenzi Turley, Account Executive  
Veronica Maere, Distribution  
Mitch Bomberger, Distribution

### EDITORIAL STAFF

Darcie Dujakovich, Editor in Chief  
Joseph Andrews, Managing Editor  
Coralie Hertzog, A&E and Opinion Editor  
Sarah von Seggern, Asst. A&E and Opinion Editor  
Andrew Wegley, Sports Editor  
Tucker Franklin, Podcast Editor  
Taylor Gonnerman, Design Editor  
Katie Stevenson, Community News Editor  
Rachel Adamson, Campus News Editor  
Leah Bruce, Cartoonist  
Abbey Hugo, Copy Editor  
Kayla Thomas, Web Developer  
Amanda Wistuba, Photography Editor

### NEWS STAFF

Trent Spinner, Chief Reporter  
Tucker Quinn, Chief Reporter  
Jesse Reed, Chief Reporter  
James Christensen, Chief Reporter  
Angel Trinh, Chief Reporter  
Samantha Collison, Chief Reporter  
Kendrick Calfee, Chief Reporter  
Keji Akimoladun, Chief Reporter  
Emily Noyes, Designer  
Kathy Nguyen, Designer  
Morgan Jones, Photographer  
Jusani Jackson, Photographer  
Madi Nolte, Photographer

### DIRECTORS

Steven Chappell  
Student Publications Director  
Leslie Murphy  
General Manager/  
Advertising Director

### CORRECTIONS POLICY

If you believe information within our publication is incorrect, please email us at  
northwestmissourian@gmail.com, call our newsroom  
(660) 562-1224, or leave us a comment on  
www.nwmissourianews.com.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We publish letters from readers for free. All letters become the property of the Northwest Missourian, which reserves the right to edit them. Letters should include your name, address and telephone number. Letters should be between 150 and 300 words and sent to d.bradford.missourian@gmail.com.





**RED SAND PROJECT:** Students gathered in front of the J.W. Jones Student Union to participate in a Red Sand Project event hosted by Student Senate and UNICEF April 17. Humanities and social sciences professor Elyssa Ford and Green Dot Coordinator Danielle Koonce gave speeches before pouring sand. Small groups split up across campus, filling sidewalk cracks with red sand to bring awareness to the 40.3 million people across the world living in slavery. Just like the sidewalk cracks, these populations are often overlooked.

MADI NOLTE | NW MISSOURIAN

## SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

Student Senate appropriated **\$575** to **Tau Kappa Epsilon**

Student Senate appropriated **\$1,500** to **International Student Organization**

Student Senate donated **\$3,000** to **UNICEF**

## Police blotters for the week of April 18

### Maryville Public Safety

#### April 4

There is an ongoing investigation for harassment at the 200 block of West Twelfth Street.

A summons was issued to **Mikhail Smith**, 22, from St. Joseph, Missouri, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

#### April 5

There is an ongoing investigation for failure to return rental property at the 2200 block of South Main Street.

A summons was issued to **Julian Parras**, 19, from Raymore, Missouri, for minor in possession at the 300 block of North Market Street.

#### April 6

A summons was issued to **Michael Coleman**, 23, for permitting a peace disturbance at the 200 block of West Second Street.

A summons was issued to **Colton Downing**, 22, for permitting a peace disturbance at the 200 block of West Second Street.

A summons was issued to **Seth Dewald**, 22, for permitting a peace disturbance at the 200 block of West Second Street.

A summons was issued to **Seneque Goldner**, 22, for permitting a peace disturbance at the 200 block of West Second Street.

A summons was issued to **Colton Downing**, 22, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North

Market Street.

A summons was issued to **Gerhard Hansen**, 19, for minor in possession and disorderly conduct at the 600 block of North Mulberry Street.

A summons was issued to **Alison Vanvactor**, 21, for disorderly conduct at the 800 block of North Walnut Street.

#### April 8

There is an ongoing investigation for property damage at the 400 block of West Grant Street.

There is an ongoing investigation for larceny at the 500 block of East Seventh Street.

#### April 9

There is an ongoing investigation for larceny at the 300 block Larry Lane.

A summons was issued to **Shahana Hall**, 27, for not having a valid driver's licenses at the 900 block of North Market Street.

A summons was issued to **Timothy Booth**, 24, for not having a valid driver's licenses at the 300 block of West First Street.

#### April 10

A summons was issued to **Joseph Everhart**, 28, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

A summons was issued to **Christopher Holder**, 22, for wanted on warrant and failure to appear at the 400 block of North Market Street.

#### April 11

There is an ongoing investiga-

tion for recovered property at the 300 block of East Davison Square.

#### April 12

There is an ongoing investigation for fraud at the 1100 block of North College Drive.

There is an ongoing investigation for lost or stolen property at the 200 block of West Second Street.

### Northwest Missouri State University Police Department

#### April 4

There is an open investigation for stealing at Millikan Hall.

#### April 10

There was a closed investigation for property damage at Lot 44.

There is an open investigation for stealing at the Foster Fitness Center.

#### April 12

There is an open investigation for property damage at Millikan Hall.

There was a closed investigation for liquor law violation on Eight Street.

#### April 13

There was a closed investigation for four liquor law violations at Lot 9.

#### April 15

There is an open investigation for sexual assault at Tower Suites.

### DEI

CONTINUED FROM A1

Mallett said Northwest does a good job promoting the success of underrepresented students but needs to work on including underrepresented students.

"I think, as an institution, we have to do a better job of exposing our underrepresented students to things that they may not be accustomed to seeing or they may not be accustomed to taking part in," Mallett said.

When Mallett was in college, he and his roommate took trips to each others hometowns to experience each other's cultural background.

"I learned a lot," Mallett said. "Cross-cultural learning can happen; we just have to be willing to want it to happen."

Librarian Carolyn Johnson attended the presentation because she is the Community Connections group leader.

"I think it was really great because he was defining the difference moving from diversity on campus to inclusion, which means more of everyone belongs," Johnson said. "We're all just here to learn, try and respect each other."

Mallett said the main thing he wanted people to take away from the presentation is that DEI does more than just working with underrepresented students. Its main goal is to encourage cross-cultural learning.

"It is not the job of underrepresented students to help majority students understand the cultural things of a certain ethnic group or a certain identity," Mallett said. "We put on programs throughout the year to allow our students to learn. We want students to feel comfortable enough to let their guard down to attend the programming."

### IOTA THETA

CONTINUED FROM A1

"Performing in front of everybody (and) doing something that I will love to do, in the future, it really was just relieving," Venerable said. "Having my parents there, it was probably really emotional for me. I might have not shown it, but I definitely felt it."

Women from different chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., the sister sorority of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated.

Nu Gamma President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. senior N'Ninah Freelon said she is happy to see the fraternity is continuing to grow.

"The Iota Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. I feel like it's great to be able to see that they have growing numbers," Freelon said. "I just hope they can continue with their presence on this campus and continue growing."

Iota Theta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. Vice President Emma Brown Jr. said he couldn't wait for the new members to be announced to the campus.

"It was something I've been excited about all semester because I knew it was coming to see that they were finally revealed," Brown said. "It brought a lot of pride and joy to see that the numbers in our chapters were growing."

Brown said they had a variety of people come to the presentation, and it wasn't what he anticipated.

"The turnout of the presentation was more than I expected because we've had fraternity brothers from all over the state and Iowa come out," Brown said. "We've also had different sororities from all over come to watch our boys presentation that definitely made everything worthwhile."



**OFFICIAL MOBILE APP**  
**NORTHWEST BEARCAT ATHLETICS**

Download on the Google play | Get it on the App Store



**New Summer BLIZZARD Menu**  
At participating locations.





**DELBERT'S GARAGE**

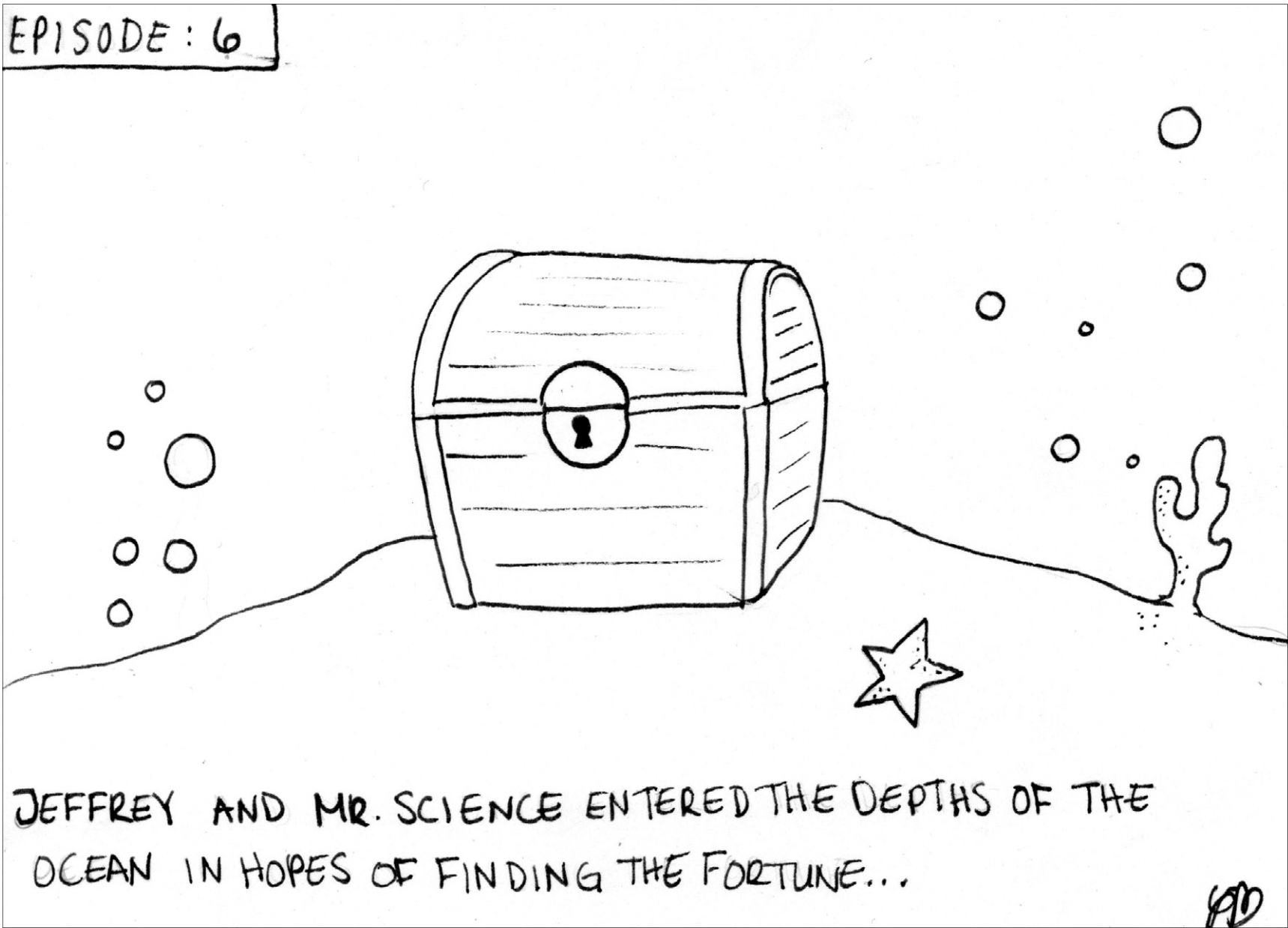
714 N DEPOT • MARYVILLE, MO  
(660)562-0025

*"Old Fashioned, Honest Service"*

TUNE-UPS, HEATING & AC REPAIR, MISSOURI STATE INSPECTORS, BRAKES, COMPUTER DIAGNOSTICS, FUEL INJECTION, SUSPENSION & STEERING, ELECTRICAL, SYSTEMS CLEAN



The Adventures of Mr. Science and Jeffrey



LEAH BRUCE | NW MISSOURIAN

HOROSCOPE

By MetroCreative

**ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Aries, take a few tentative steps forward first before diving wholeheartedly into a situation. It is a good idea to test the waters on any big project before fully submerging.

**TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, don’t abandon caring for yourself if your to-do list is a mile long. Figure out a way to devote some attention to yourself and reap the rewards.

**GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21**  
Gemini, a new outlook can help you overcome a problem that’s puzzled you. Shift your perception for a bit, or even embrace some distractions to clear your mind.

**CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Powerful connections seem to be turning up in all you do lately, Cancer. These influential people can help you in your career or personal life if you play the right hand.

**LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Don’t apologize for putting yourself first this week, Leo. People will respect you more when you set clear boundaries and are forthcoming in your interactions.

**VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Honesty is one of your foremost qualities, Virgo. Others appreciate this and will look to you for guidance. Express your thoughts while keeping others in mind.

**LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Libra, it’s only been a few months but you are on track to meet long-term goals. Keep up the good work and don’t be surprised when others notice and acknowledge your progress.

**SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Everyone wants a piece of you this week, Scorpio. You might feel like you’re getting pulled in a million different directions. Embrace this, but make sure you don’t get swept away.

**SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, without an efficient system in place, you may seem like you’re spinning in too many directions. You might need to outsource some work.

**CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20**  
The truth shall set you free, Capricorn. It could take a while to get to the heart of the matter, but all of your effort will prove well worth it in the long run.

**AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Aquarius, try new things and embrace activities even if it means going out of your comfort zone. It can be scary to break out of routine, but you’ll be glad once you do.

**PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, find a way to unwind in the days ahead. A hectic schedule is just about to clear up, and you have earned some much-needed rest and relaxation.

SUDOKU

By MetroCreative

3		1			2		4	
	9							
		2	4	8				3
		6	1				3	2
			3					6
		5						
		4	2					
6			7			9		
9						5		8

Level: Intermediate

Last Week’s Solutions

			P	O	E	M			E	P	A	C	T		
	S	H	A	S	T	A			N	E	W	E	L	S	
	M	I	C	H	A	E	L		M	A	N	N	T	E	
B	A	B					N	A	E	S	I	B	Y	L	
A	C	E				H	A	D	S	T		S	A	M	A
D	K	R		M	O	D			H	A	S		L	I	P
			N	S	E	C				B	I	B	L	E	S
E	M	A	I	L						R	E	E	S	E	
R	A	T	T	E	D				P	E	N	T			
A	N	I		S	A	C			S	A	E		O	U	R
S	T	O	W		B	A	S	A	L				M	P	H
E	R	N	E	S		R	A	D					A	P	O
D	A		B	E	N	E	D	I	C	T	I	N	E		
		P	I	E	T	A	S			S	A	I	L	E	D
		A	R	A	B	S				T	R	E	K		

7	1	2	9	4	5	8	3	6
8	3	5	6	1	7	9	4	2
6	9	4	3	2	8	5	1	7
9	8	6	1	7	2	4	5	3
3	4	1	5	6	9	7	2	8
2	5	7	4	8	3	6	9	1
4	2	3	7	5	6	1	8	9
5	7	9	8	3	1	2	6	4
1	6	8	2	9	4	3	7	5

CROSSWORD

By MetroCreative

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. A way to wound
  - 5. Hormone secreted by the pituitary gland (abbr.)
  - 8. Shows the world
  - 11. Decided
  - 13. Indigenous person of NE Thailand
  - 14. Dough made from corn flour
  - 15. Honors
  - 16. Political commentator Coulter
  - 17. Expresses pleasure
  - 18. Heavy clubs
  - 20. Defunct phone company
  - 21. Algonquian language
  - 22. Salts
  - 25. Act of the bank
  - 30. Danced
  - 31. Drummer Weinberg
  - 32. Small goose
  - 33. Helps evade
  - 38. Certified public accountant
  - 41. Periods of time
  - 43. Kids’ book character
  - 45. Type of beer
  - 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
  - 49. A way to attack
  - 50. Talk radio personality Margery
  - 55. Whale ship captain
  - 56. Request
  - 57. Large underground railstation in Paris
  - 59. BBQ dish
  - 60. No (Scottish)
  - 61. Jewish spiritual leader
  - 62. Tool used to harvest agave
  - 63. Explosive
  - 64. A reward (archaic)

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
  - 2. Polite interruption sound
  - 3. Extremely small amount

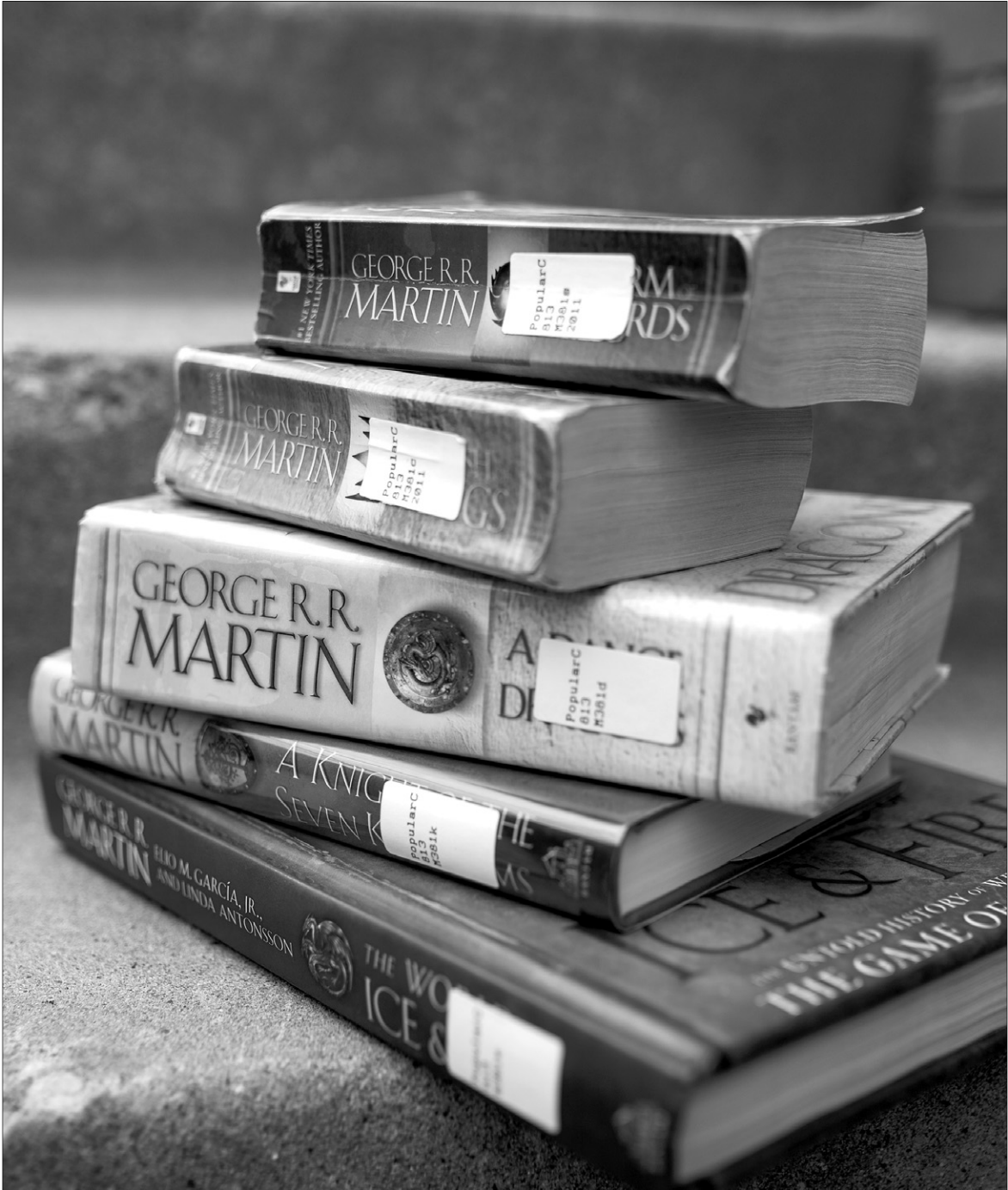
1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	
11				12		13				14				
15						16				17				
	18				19	20				21				
					22	23				24				
25	26	27	28	29										
30							31							
32										33	34	35	36	37
					38	39	40		41	42				
					43			44						
47	48				49				50	51	52	53	54	
55					56					57				58
59					60					61				
62					63					64				

- 4. Very short period of time (abbr.)
- 5. Fires have them
- 6. Sacred place
- 7. Island capital
- 8. Volcanic craters
- 9. Arthur \_\_, Wimbledon champion
- 10. Bullfighting maneuver
- 12. Midway between east and southeast
- 14. A ceremonial staff
- 19. Cheap prices
- 23. North Atlantic fish
- 24. Oil company
- 25. A federally chartered savings bank
- 26. Paddle
- 27. Where UK soldiers train
- 28. One point north of due east
- 29. Attention-getting
- 34. Ballplayer’s tool
- 35. Sun up in New York
- 36. Where golfers begin
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Represented as walking (animal)
- 40. Craftsman
- 41. Unit of force (abbr.)
- 42. Dueling sword
- 44. Houston hoopster
- 45. Stone building at Mecca
- 46. \_\_ and flows
- 47. “Beastmaster” actor Singer
- 48. American state
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. U.S. island territory
- 53. German physicist
- 54. One point east of northeast
- 58. Get free of

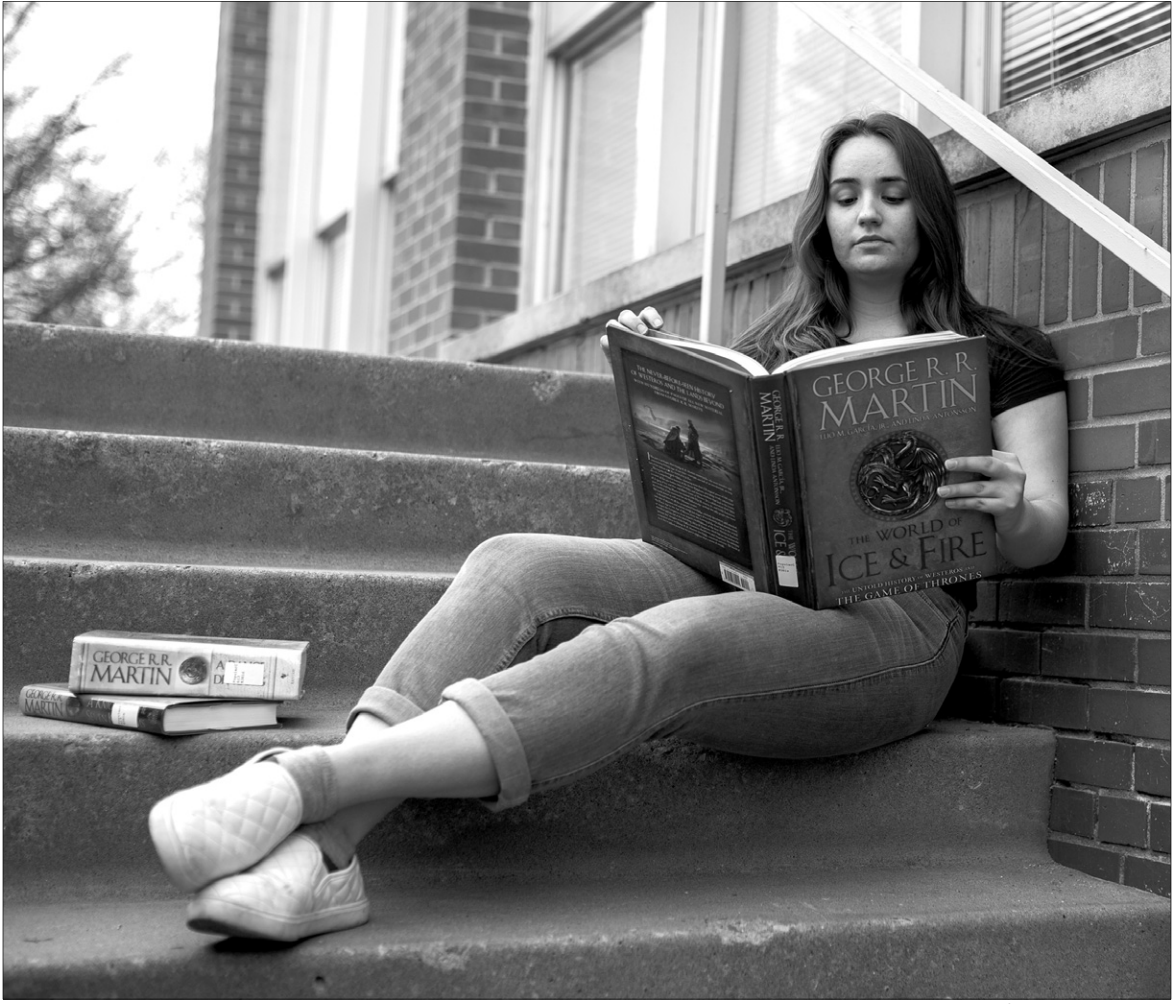




AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN  
Game of Thrones writer and creator George R.R. Martin based many plot points on different events in history such as the War of Roses.



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN  
The fictional language of the Dothraki, a tribe of nomadic horsemen, is a mix of German, Arabic, Swahili, Inuktitut and Russian.



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN  
The most watched episode of Game of Thrones is “Mother’s Mercy” according to Forbes. The most memorable moment was Queen Cersei’s walk of shame, where she walked the kingdom’s capital naked.

# Hit series sparks fan theories

CORIE HERTZOG  
A&E Editor | @CoffeeGilmore97

Thousands of people huddled around screens as the steady rhythm of drums and horns signaled the beginning of an end. Winter has arrived with dragons in tow.

“Game of Thrones” dominated media April 14 as the series debuted the premiere of its final season.

Based off the book series of the same title, written by George R. R. Martin, the show rocked the entertainment world and skyrocketed the acting careers of dozens. Each season averages 6.5 million viewers according to Statista.

The show began April 17, 2011, and captivated viewers with its graphic gore, violence and nudity, all packed into episodes with run times that last close to an hour.

There is a reason the show coined the term “sex position” as many plot points are made as characters go at it like rabbits.

Biomedical science junior April James said the grittiness and gore add to the show’s appeal.

“I think it’s influenced TV to be more daring,” James said. “They show some dark stuff. Like they show the deaths and blood. They don’t shy away from showing us

what people would do to protect their families. They show us how dark and twisted a person can be.”

“Game of Thrones” has a multitude of characters all fighting for control of the Iron Throne and the right to rule the fictional world of Westeros. There are a few families who the show focuses on more than the most: Houses Starks, Lannister, Baratheon, Targaryen, Greyjoys, Tyrell and the Night’s Watch. However, quite a few members of these families don’t make it past season one.

Computer science junior Connor Beshears enjoys the shock value.

“It’s crazy how there is a lack of general concern for people you think will be series long characters,” Beshears said. “George has no problem just killing them off.”

So many characters have died that one of the more popular phrases of the show is “Valar morghulis” which translates to “all men must die.”

No character has appeared in every single episode of the series.

While some speculate the main character is Jon Snow, played by Kit Harington, or Daenerys Targaryen, played by Emilia Clarke, statistics show it’s another fan favorite. According to researchers

Andrew J. Beveridge and Jie Shan, the main character is Tyrion Lannister, played by Peter Dinklage.

“Game of Thrones” has influenced much of pop culture. According to The Guardian, “Game of Thrones” is “referenced throughout pop culture, celebrated at fan conventions, inspiring everything from pop-up bars to a live concert experience.”

The popular language learning app DuoLingo even offers the show’s fictitious language, High Valyrian, for fans to learn.

While the show is coming to an end in its eighth season, Martin told IGN that it would need at least another five seasons to stay truthful to his books. However, he did say the end of the show will be as close to the books as possible.

“I don’t think Dan and Dave’s (the creators of the show) ending is going to be that different from my ending because of the conversations we did have,” Martin said. “But they may be on certain secondary characters, there may be big differences, there’s no way to get in all the detail, all the minor characters, all the secondary characters.”

This has led many to speculate who will win the throne.

Erik Kain, a contributor to Forbes, gathered eight possibili-

ties. The first is that no one will gain the throne.

“It will be nobody,” Kain said. “That’s my guess.”

Kain roots this theory in a quote from the Mother of Dragons, Daenerys.

“At one point during a conversation between Dany and Tyrion in the season six finale, Daenerys says something that I think we should all pay heed to,” Kain said. “‘Lannister, Targaryen, Baratheon, Stark, Tyrell — they’re all just spokes on a wheel. Their one is on top, then that one’s on top and on and on, it spins crushing those on the ground. ... I’m not going to stop the wheel; I’m going to break the wheel.’”

Beshears agreed with the statement.

“I don’t think anyone will be sitting on the throne by the end of this thing,” Beshears said.

Another theory is that Jon Snow and Daenerys will not get their “happily ever after.”

James thinks it’ll be because one of them will die.

“I want Jon or Daenerys to get it, but I think they are going to kill one off and the other has to rule without the other,” James said.

Kain doesn’t think it’ll be due to another shocking death, but rath-

er, and spoiler alert, because they discover they are related.

“It’s entirely possible that Dany won’t care that she and Jon Snow are related,” Kain said. “The Targaryens never really did mind the whole incest thing. But I do think she’ll be upset when she discovers that Jon is actually next in line for the Iron Throne. ... Jon, on the other hand, is more Stark than Targaryen. ... I don’t think he’ll be at all okay to learn that the woman he’s just begun sleeping with is a close blood relative.”

Other predictions include the death of all the dragons; Jaime will kill Cersei; a long-awaited showdown between the brothers; The Hound and The Mountain; and inspiring the Martin to write.

A bit of an inside joke among “Game of Thrones” fans, Martin is notorious for procrastinating on finishing the story.

“If I were Martin, and I saw the TV show last my books, I’d be inspired to write more and write faster,” Kain said. “If I saw my greatest work finished before I finished it, with an ending that wasn’t really the ending I planned, I’d want to set the record straight.”



# HERO celebrates trans awareness

**ANGEL TRINH**  
A&E Reporter | @acuteanglewrite

Music, laughter and chatter echoed from students sitting in a circle sharing personal stories in celebration of transgender people.

Helping Everyone Regardless of Orientation hosted its second annual event for Transgender Day of Visibility by exhibiting art, music and poetry by transgender students at Northwest and local artists April 10 in the living room of the J.W. Jones Student Union.

HERO Vice President, sophomore Simon Hamilton, and activities coordinator, freshman Noah Wolfe, started planning and organizing the event in February.

The International Transgender Day of Visibility was March 31, but the event couldn't take place earlier due to spring break.

Hamilton wanted the event to raise awareness about trans people.

"Not a lot of people necessarily know who trans people are or even know any trans people," Hamilton said. "Trans people exist all around you. You see them day to day. ... It's just to show off that trans people ex-

ist, and they make wonderful things."

The artwork was shown physically on tables and through multiple slideshows set up around the room on various laptops. There were two tri-fold poster boards displaying poetry. Music by Against Me!, Left at London and other trans musicians played in the background during the event.

Most of the displayed art was created by Northwest students. Hamilton and Wolfe reached out to HERO members, their friends and the art department to find artwork to showcase. They also contacted LGBT groups in Kansas City, Missouri, and other artists that publish their work online.

Hamilton hoped to educate people on the correct terminology to use with trans people and other members of the LGBT community.

"(We're) just informing people and making them more knowledgeable of our existence," Hamilton said. "A lot of people will say rude terms, and they won't even realize it because that's kind of the norm. There isn't as much awareness for it."

**FULL STORY ONLINE:**  
**NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**



JUSANI JACKSON | NW MISSOURIAN  
Sophomore Simon Hamilton explains drawings to Noah Wolfe during Hero's Trans Day of Visibility.

## THE STROLLER: Your Bearcat wants you to stop complaining about old problems

Bearcats, let's be honest; we all have that one friend who just won't shut up about the same problems. If I have to hear one more time about how your roommate puts the toilet paper on backwards, I don't think we can have lunch anymore.

Constantly complaining about the same problems doesn't help fix them; either do something or talk off someone else's ear.

Look, I love the developing story about how your ex's life keeps getting worse and how your teacher keeps on saying the word "pen-

guin" wrong, but once I hear the same story 20 times in a month, I might actually tell you to shut up.

We all have problems but don't become problematic.

Why haven't you heard me complain about this before, you ask? You completely bulldoze over me.

You walk into a room with the "tea" but it's the same sweet tea from McDonald's you left in your car last week. It's the same, watered down version you've been spewing all week and it's gotten bland. I want something sweet or spicy, not

something bitter.

This spring, don't just clean your room or your car, clean up your attitude about life. It's almost summer and your annoying roommate is going to move out.

Switch around the toilet paper roll and date someone new. I can't wait to hear about your new troubles or newfound bliss.

*The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.*

## Tribute to the Ladies honors Northwest women through dinner

**PRIYANKA PATEL**  
Missourian Reporter | @Priyanka\_xo\_

An enlightening atmosphere surrounded by laughter and applause filled the room with a heart-warming engagement for the ladies.

The Minority Men's Organization hosted its annual Tribute to the Ladies event April 14 in the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom.

Tribute to the Ladies is an event that celebrates the ladies at Northwest, with special talent performances by the gentleman on campus. Ladies had free admission and men paid \$7 for entry, with the ladies being escorted from the door to their seats the entire night.

President of the MMO Arlondo Watson said it's important to appreciate women in society.

"There is so much commotion taking place that some people tend to forget their worth or value to the world, and we make it our duty as men to ensure their pride still remains high," Watson said. "We think highly of women because without them, who are we?"

Senior David Anzures has been trying to attend this event since his freshman year but never found the time until this year.

"It was definitely worth the wait,

and I love how this event highlights the achievement of women on campus, especially women of color," Anzures said. "The food was phenomenal, and I loved the sense of solidarity and energy in the room."

The event also included performances from executive board members showing off their talents such as spoken word or singing, as well as hip-hop and rap artists from the surrounding area.

Anzures said that more people should attend events held by multicultural organizations.

"Most people don't realize that there is a lot of interest in events like this, and I feel like the majority of the population on campus are hesitant to attend events held by multicultural organizations, but they are definitely missing out," Anzures said.

The organization aims to ensure men are involved, comfortable and knowledgeable in all aspects of the University, community and society.

"We have hosted other events such as game night, movie nights, open discussions and community service projects throughout the community," Watson said.

**FULL STORY ONLINE:**  
**NWMISSOURINEWS.COM**



### Bringing more health-care services to you.

The name on the building is changing, but the care, dedication and respect for Maryville and surrounding communities remains. We're bringing you more health-care services and we're making the transition as easy as possible, so there's no disruption to your care. We're Mosaic, and we're grateful to be here providing you with outstanding care, close to home.



[myMosaicLifeCare.org/Maryville](http://myMosaicLifeCare.org/Maryville)

Maryville Florists

We Have a Flower For That!

800 572-3066 660 562-3066  
214 North Main Maryville MO 64468  
[www.maryvilleflorists.com](http://www.maryvilleflorists.com)

KOOL KATS

"WE LOVE OUR CUSTOMERS!"

811 SOUTH MAIN (660) 541-0446

NEW MENU ITEMS!

ELVIS

FRIED POPTARTS  
FRIED OREOS  
FRIED TWINKIES  
WITH ANY SCOOP OF ICE-CREAM!

\$4.50  
INCLUDES TAX



## AUSTIN

CONTINUED FROM A12

“With track, I felt like I was always gifted,” Austin said. “In high school, I wasn’t really good at it. I never really tried, and I never cared, but then I like, ‘I actually do want to try and do something with it,’ after watching Usain Bolt and stuff like that. I felt like I could make it bigger with track than I could with football.”

Austin’s unrelenting desire to compete has been nearly too strong at times. Masters, who is in his first season at the helm for Northwest track, has held Austin back at times at practice and in training in an attempt to save his energy.

“I think the big thing is Omar was always wanting to run and win every rep early in the season,” Masters said. “Maybe it wasn’t the energy system we wanted him to get into, so I had to teach him how to understand that going at a certain rep at a little slower pace is not necessarily a bad thing.”

Over the course of both the indoor and outdoor seasons, Austin has learned. The results speak for themselves. The Newark native was one of seven Bearcats to qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships where he posted an All-America performance after finishing the 400-meter race with a time of 47.70.

“He’s a student of the game,” Masters said. “He loves track. He’s very smart, he’s learned a ton and you see it coming out in the track with his performances.”

As much as Newark has driven Austin’s work ethic forward, his biggest motivator isn’t the city he grew up in, nor is it his desire to win. It’s his family.

Austin’s mom, a track athlete in her own right, encouraged her son to pursue the sport and inspired him each day. Growing up, Austin’s

mother raised him and his three younger brothers by herself. Austin said his mother and siblings are what push him each day.

“My mom is like my hero,” Austin said. “Even though everybody has a dad, I don’t have a dad technically. My mom played the mom and the dad role, and she’s been through a lot and sacrificed a lot for me to be where I’m at. I love her a lot for everything she does, and I told her I’m going to make it one day and take care of her. And that’s my biggest goal now.”

Austin’s mom and his siblings, who he said he serves as a father figure for, are the reason he practices beyond Masters’ demanding training regime.

They’re the reason Austin works so diligently on perfecting his craft and the reason he wants to break as many program records as he can in the coming weeks. They’re the reason Austin is never satisfied, not even when he finishes in first place and provisionally qualifies for nationals like he did last weekend. They’re the reason he competes so hard, even against himself.

For Austin, his mother and his siblings are everything. They’re the entire reason he’s here. They’re why he wants to be an Olympian after he leaves Northwest. They’re why he wants to make it.

“I want to set a big example for (my brothers), and I want to show my mom that her son can actually do this stuff,” Austin said. “I also want to prove myself right ... I’m a fighter. I was raised in the projects. When you’re raised in the environment like that, you’re aggressive. I’m a winner. I don’t like losing. If I lose, I’m going to go home and think about it. Then I’m going to work on getting better so I can win every time I get on the track.”

## BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM A12

One of the many pitchers facing a midseason slump is senior closer Trevor Dudar. Dudar is the all-time saves leader for the Bearcats but has recently fallen victim to control issues. During this span, Dudar has blown two saves, but Loe only sees this as a minor problem, as he is a quality pitcher facing just a few issues.

“He’s a good arm, he’s a veteran guy, so he’ll get out of the funk,” Loe said. “We’ll be getting him

back out there, and I think the biggest thing is just getting him back out there.”

The Bearcats are hoping to clear their minds a little as they look forward to this weekend against the MIAA leader Central Missouri. This trip comes after a 6-4 loss to Washburn April 16.

Nevertheless, Northwest is gearing to get back on track after this regrettable weekend.

“We are looking forward to bouncing back this week,” Gutierrez said. “Getting back to playing the way we are capable of.”



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Maryville junior Jacob Davenport is helping lead the boys track team to a promising season with his success in the 110-meter hurdles.

# Maryville track readies for postseason push

MADDISYN GERHARDT  
Missourian Reporter | @maddigerhardt

Winning is something that the Maryville track and field team is accustomed to. With consistent success coming from events like the girl’s relays and the distance races, the Spoofhounds are starting to focus on creating another rewarding postseason.

Athletes like seniors Jordan Piveral and Will Mattock have been key players in the Spoofhounds’ annual success.

With the regular season drawing to a close along with an end to coach Nathan Powell’s reign coming up this postseason is one that Maryville has foreseen for years.

“Powell lives up to a pretty high standard. Everyone knows him on a very good level through school and track,” senior javelin thrower Jordan Piveral said. “Replacing him will be a tough job, but I’m sure they’ll do their best.”

Powell announced via Twitter that once the school year is over he will be taking his talents to his alma mater of Princeton High School as the football and track and field coach.

While at Maryville, Powell is said to have an influence on both the track and field and football programs and its athletes. This impact is backed by an accompaniment of varying accolades and awards.

“He was my hurdle and high

jump coach. I talk to him about any problem, and he’s very approachable and good at keeping everyone on the same page,” junior Molly Renshaw said. “Everyone will be really sad next year when he’s gone.”

To many of the track athletes, they believe that he has improved the program tremendously and has helped the athletes better themselves on a very competitive high school level, and for some, prepare for collegiate competitions as well.

As a new coach and team come into formation for the 2019-20 school year, a younger crowd is slowly becoming the backbone that the Spoofhounds need to create a dependable team to not only finish out this year but for many years to come.

“I think it’s good for us older people to just come in and be helpful for them,” Renshaw said. “It’s good for them to come to us and ask us questions because we all know what they’re going through. We have a lot of freshman and sophomore girls that are doing really good.”

While many of the athletes have already seen their own prosperous postseasons from years past, a newer and younger looking group is coming on the heels of their first lucrative postseason.

“We’ve had a lot of younger kids that have shown a lot of good talent, the running events as well,” Piveral said.

The team has faced many battles this year with athlete injuries or focuses on an individual’s other re-

spected sports.

As these issues have taken many talented athletes out of the race for a district or state title, many are still expected to do what they know how to do — win.

“I feel like Braiden [Sells] and Will Mattock have done a really good job this year,” Piveral said. “This year, we’ve got solid runners in the short distance. Dion Metezi-er, he’s new and I feel like he’s been doing a great job.”

With the end of the regular season drawing near, practicing for the team’s future runs at districts and state is the only thing on the mind of these athletes.

“For long distance, they kind of go off and do their own thing, which obviously somehow works, but for us, it’s just trying to be consistent in each meet,” Renshaw said. “It’s just continually being with the same people and working on hand-offs and continuing the same thing meet after meet, practice after practice so we can get ready and be perfect for postseason.”

With only a few practices and meets left for the Spoofhounds, each athlete has their own expectations for both their individual and team finishes.

“The goal is always to go to state and perform well,” Renshaw said. “I think our boy’s team has a really good chance to go forward in competing. Also for girls, we have a better shot and hopefully have a better showing.”

**Pitzenberger Body Shop**

**660.582.4599**

2711 South Mulberry      “When quality counts!”

10% Student Discount  
(660) 562-4644  
1 Fall Drive  
Maryville, MO

*William Coy's*  
FARM TO TABLE  
- RESTAURANT -  
Come enjoy our  
Brunch Specials  
Saturday & Sunday  
10am-3pm

**SouthPaws Veterinary Clinic**

660.582.7387  
221 S. Main St.  
Maryville, MO

Surgery, Dental, X-Ray, Medicine,  
Ultrasound, Wellness Care,  
Pet Products, Science Diet Food

Saturday:  
8am-Noon  
Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday, Friday:  
8am-5:30pm  
Wednesday:  
8am-7pm

RESIDENTIAL GLASS REPLACEMENT • SAFE SERVICING

**MARYVILLE GLASS & LOCK**  
The First Glass Place to Call

114 W. 5th  
Maryville, MO

Phone: 660.582.3131  
Mobile: 660.582.9030  
E-mail: mgl@maryvilleglassandlock.com

GARAGE DOORS • OPERATORS • COMPLETE LOCK SMITH SERVICES • LOCKOUTS • MIRRORS • STORE FRONTS • AUTO GLASS

Visit  
**Dr. Dallas Fitzgerald**  
at the  
**Walmart Vision Center**  
15 years at this location!

Eye-health exams as low as \$65 .  
Contact lens fitting of all major brands.  
Many insurance plans accepted.

1605 S. Main St.  
Maryville, MO  
660.562.0215

STUDENTS  
RECEIVE 10% OFF  
on ink and printing  
WITH YOUR BEARCAT CARD

GO BEARCATS!

**RAPID ELITE**  
INK. PRINT. SHIP.

418 N MAIN | DOWNTOWN MARYVILLE | 660.562.4657

**EXTRA EXTRA**

STAY UP TO DATE ON  
EVERYTHING HAPPENING  
ON CAMPUS AND IN THE  
COMMUNITY

**NWM**  
nwmissourinews.com





Maryville baseball fell to Savannah 10-0 in the Pony Express semifinals at Phil Welch Stadium April 16.

MADI GLASS | NW MISSOURIAN

# ‘Hounds continue midsesaon growth

GEORDON GUMM  
Missourian Reporter | @geordon97gumm

Maryville baseball started the season with a less than stellar pitching performance and an offense that appeared non-existent at times. With the regular season nearing its end, the Spoofhounds have managed to hit their groove at an ideal time.

When the calendar flipped from March to April, something started to click for the ‘Hounds as they found themselves performing with a level of consistency they had yet to experience this season. The offense found its stride at the plate allowing Maryville to win every game except for one since the start of April.

The Spoofhounds have grabbed two key wins, coming against St.



Joseph-Lafayette April 12 and Chillicothe April 15. The game against Lafayette was one to remember as the ‘Hounds managed to pull off a six-run comeback.

Coach Carson Riedel said his team’s ability to fight through was a big part to the come back.

“I think it speaks volumes about the growth of the team,” Riedel said. “The guys could have easily given up when they saw the score was 6-0.”

Picking up a win over Lafayette was big for the Spoofhounds as they gained some much-needed confidence going into the Pony Express Tournament where they faced against Chillicothe in the first round. Connor Weiss had some strong remarks after the team’s remarkable comeback.

“We did not give up, and that is what you want,” Weiss said. “We are not a soft team, so we had to prove that.”

Maryville got off to a slow start as they did not get any offense going until the third inning. The Spoofhounds were only down for a short time before they quickly took the lead from the Hornets. The ‘Hounds exploded offensively, bringing in four runs in the third inning and taking a commanding three-run lead over Chillicothe.

Rattling off a couple of wins in this fashion will prove useful for the ‘Hounds down the road. The Spoofhounds have realized that they do not always see success when seeing a pitcher for the first time at the plate.

“I have started to notice that

the team as a whole likes to get a look at the pitcher before we try to hit him,” Riedel said. “We have not really jumped on anybody right out of the gates before we get a look at them this year, which has become somewhat of a trend for us.”

After beating Chillicothe, Maryville put itself in a position to exact revenge on Savannah after scoring just three runs in the team’s first two meetings. On the other hand, Savannah has put up 26 runs scoring 13 in each game.

Maryville’s sole loss of April came against the Savages on April 9. The Spoofhounds will be prepared for the third meeting with a chip on their shoulder. The ‘Hounds will hope to carry their recent success into the matchup with Savannah with whom they have had lit-

## UP NEXT

**Benton Tournament**  
April 20  
St. Joseph

tle success against. “Savannah has been a tough opponent for us so far this year,” Riedel said. “We have been hot at the plate lately, so hopefully we can rely on our familiarity with them to keep the bats going.”

Maryville was not able to continue its hot streak at the plate against the Savages as they fell 10-0. The Spoofhounds will have a chance to play for third place in the tournament 6:30 p.m. April 18.

# Golf aims to overcome early season struggles

JON WALKER  
Contributing Reporter | @jonnywalk25

Maryville boys golf hasn’t performed to its liking so far, but it’s looking to find its stroke heading into the bulk of tournament play.

The boys hit the green yet again April 11, this time at the St. Joseph Country Club against the Bishop LeBlond Eagles. The ‘Hounds fared well against the Eagles despite windy weather conditions, but it wasn’t enough to overtake the conference powerhouse that is Bishop LeBlond.

The Eagles took the match with a final score of 161-182. LeBlond was led by University of Kansas golf-commit Hank Lierz (39). The Spoofhounds were led by ju-



nior Trent Shell (43), and freshman Trevin Cunningham (44).

Although Maryville’s roster includes six seniors, Cunningham has come into a world of his own this season despite being a freshman. Coach Brenda Ricks raved about how much he’s meant to the program in his first year.

“He’s meant so much to this program already,” Ricks said. “He’s definitely prided the older guys to work harder. ... As a freshman, to be where he is, I’m proud of him.”

Cunningham tied for 15th at the Midland Empire Conference Tournament April 15 with a total score of 98 over the 18-hole course.

Maryville had three golfers join the All-Conference list, led by senior Connor Durbin (86), Trent Shell and senior Matthew Madden,

who tied for ninth with a score of 88. The Spoofhounds placed third as a team behind none other than Bishop LeBlond and new conference member St. Pius X.

“I didn’t shoot as well as I would’ve liked to,” Cunningham said. “I think I could’ve gotten up there with the rest of the team, but I just missed some funky shots that I normally don’t have a problem with.”

Those missed shots were attributed to a tough course played — the St. Joseph Country Club. The ‘Hounds have become accustomed to that course as they’ve played there twice already, and still have another match there later in the season. Ricks knew the difficult task at hand playing on such an intricate course yet again.

“I mean I think we’re capable of scoring a lot better than we did,” Ricks said. “There are always things we can improve on as golfers. ... What I love about playing there is it gives us great experience with course management, something that we’re going to need for districts.”

Ricks went on to compare the Country Club course to the Shirley Golf Course in Richmond, Missouri, that the Spoofhounds will play on for their district rounds. Fortunately for the ‘Hounds, they’ll have the chance to play on Shirley in a match before the district tournament to get familiar with it.

Maryville is looking to lose strokes as it gets further into tournament play, but that will be put on hold for the time being. The Spoofhounds will have another chance to

## UP NEXT

**Green Hills Tournament**  
April 18  
Chillicothe

improve in a head-to-head match against Chillicothe April 18.

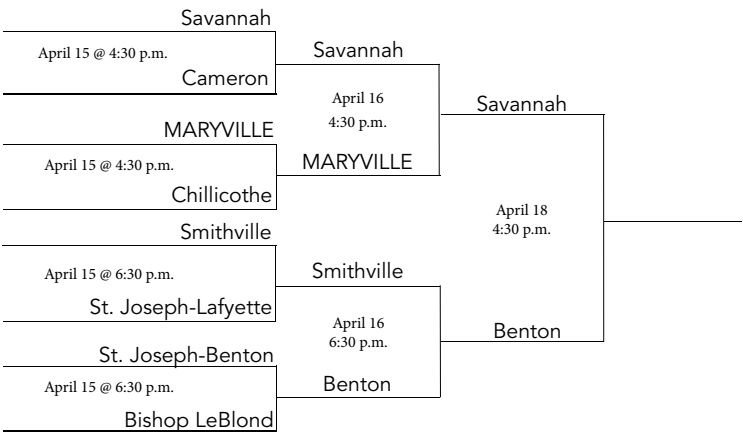
Durbin, who’s used to playing on successful teams after three seasons with the program, knows the ceiling that this team has going forward.

“If we play the way that we can, then I believe we can make it to state as a team,” Durbin said. “Personally, I think I should make it to state pretty easily, but I’m confident that we can do it as a team too.”

SPONSORED BY NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE  
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

## MARYVILLE BASEBALL

### Pony Express Baseball Tournament



## NW BASEBALL

### MIAA Standings

#### Overall MIAA

Central Missouri.....	25-11	17-7
Missouri Southern.....	26-13	17-7
Emporia State.....	22-15	15-9
Central Oklahoma.....	24-14	14-10
Missouri Western.....	17-15	14-10
Pittsburg State.....	21-17	13-11
Lindenwood.....	20-19	13-11
NORTHWEST.....	17-20	13-11
Washburn.....	19-17	11-13
Northeastern State.....	11-28	8-16
Southwest Baptist.....	14-23	7-17
Fort Hays State.....	3-31	2-22

## NW SOFTBALL

### MIAA Standings

#### Overall MIAA

Central Oklahoma.....	35-3	17-1
Missouri Western.....	30-14	17-5
Washburn.....	22-20	13-5
Central Missouri.....	26-16	10-6
Northeastern State.....	23-20	11-7
Emporia State.....	20-21	10-8
Lindenwood.....	24-14	11-11
Pittsburg State.....	23-24	11-11
Fort Hays State.....	17-18	10-10
Missouri Southern.....	19-20	10-12
Nebraska Kearney.....	15-21	9-11
NORTHWEST.....	10-22	5-14
Southwest Baptist.....	5-40	2-16
Lincoln.....	4-42	1-21





Junior infielder Karli Allen has started 33 games with 24 hits at this point in the season. The Bearcats are set to play April 23 against Central Missouri in Maryville. AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

# Softball takes doubleheader over MIAA rival

**TUCKER FRANKLIN**  
Assistant Sports Editor | @thereal\_tuckerf

Northwest softball was able to collect a pair of wins in an afternoon doubleheader for the third time this season against Southwest Baptist at Bearcat Softball Field April 15. The Bearcats, wearing green and white, swept Southwest Baptist in the Battle of the Bearcats, 9-7 and 5-1. Game 1 followed a similar script to what Northwest had done all year. The ‘Cats got off to an early 6-0 lead thanks to home runs from freshman catcher Ady Watts, freshman infielder Olivia Daugherty and back-to-back shots from sophomore utility Sydne Brashear and junior infielder Karli Allen. Northwest added one more run to its lead before the home squad watched its lead disappear in the top of the sixth and seventh innings.



Southwest Baptist scored one in the sixth, and six in the seventh to knot the score up 7-7. The tie was short-lived as junior infielder Kaitlyn Weis stepped to the plate with senior outfielder Jaedra Moses standing on second. Weis then lifted a pitch over the right-field fence to end the game and the Bearcats’ eight-game losing skid. As a team, Northwest hit six homers in the first game of the set. That was good for the most home runs in a single game record. The previous record was set Feb. 25, 2006, when the ‘Cats launched five against Central Missouri. Watts said the thought didn’t enter anyone’s mind that the record was broken. “We had no idea,” Watts said. “I’m still sure some of them do not even know right now, but I’m sure they feel the same as I do when I

say it feels freaking great.” In Game 2, Northwest got off to a hot start scoring three runs in the home half of the third and then two more during its next turn at the plate to go up 5-0. Southwest Baptist scored one in the fifth to make the score 5-1, which proved to be the final. Sophomore pitcher Regan Thompson threw seven complete frames, striking out five while allowing one walk and one run. The outing against Southwest Baptist was the third time Thompson has thrown a complete game this season. “I’ve been in situations this season where my team has needed me to complete the game and was unable to perform,” Thompson said. “Yesterday (April 15), I just really wanted to finish, and that was one of my goals going into it, so it feels good to accomplish that.” Thompson collected her fifth

win of the season as she moved to 5-10. Going into the final game of the series, the sophomore pitcher said she had a feeling her stuff would be effective. “I try to warm up at the same pace and same speed before every game,” Thompson said. “My routine doesn’t vary much. Some teams that we face hit movement better than others, while some hit speed better. I thought I had a good shot against their bats from what I saw from them the first game. Our bats were on and my defense had my back.” With the doubleheader wins, Northwest is undefeated in six games at its home field and will look to continue that trend as the remaining six games of the season will be played at Bearcat Softball Field. “It definitely helps our team’s confidence,” Thompson said.

## UP NEXT

**Northwest vs Central Missouri**  
April 23  
Maryville

“We’re undefeated at home. When you practice every day on your home field, it gives you a sense of comfort knowing every inch of the field.” With the next game for the ‘Cats being April 23, the extended layoff provides time for the team to prepare for the remaining schedule and push for the postseason. “We are still practicing like we have a game the next day,” Watts said. “These next few games mean so much to us, and we will continue to put in the work in the cages and on the field just as before.”

# Summer Sessions

at the University of Central Missouri

**Want to get extra college credit over the summer?**

Apply for **UCM Summer Sessions!**

- 6-, 8- or 12-week sessions
- Courses available on both Warrensburg and Lee’s Summit campuses
- Numerous online courses to choose from
- UCM credits transfer easily.



**UNIVERSITY OF  
CENTRAL  
MISSOURI**  
LEARNING TO A GREATER DEGREE

**APPLY TODAY!**  
[ucmo.edu/apply](https://ucmo.edu/apply)





# Standout sprinter forges winning path

**ANDREW WEGLEY**  
Sports Editor | @andrew\_wegley21

If there are two things, above all others, that should be known about Northwest track and field freshman sprinter Omar Austin, they're clear and dependent on one another: he's a fighter and a winner.



Austin always has been. He's always had to be a fighter, and being one is what's helped him — if not forced him — to be a winner. Throughout Northwest's indoor track and field season, Austin fought each week to win, and he was successful more often than not.

Austin, who coach Brandon Masters dubbed "the fastest freshman in the country," walked away from his first indoor season with a handful of program records, first place finishes and the NCAA Division II Central Region Indoor Track Athlete of the Year award. Now, in the midst of his first collegiate outdoor season, Austin is pushing for more.

But his tenacity and desire for greatness predate Austin's time at Northwest. He had both qualities as a defensive back for Blake High School in Tampa, Florida, and well before that growing up in the projects of Newark, New Jersey.

"The part of Jersey where I grew up, that was more of the hood," Austin said. "That was straight gangs — it's called Newark, New Jersey — it's straight violence, straight gangs. It's basically like the most dangerous part to go, like one of the most dangerous cities in this world."

The violent crime rate in Newark has been double the national average every year since 2008, according to city-data.com. The chances of being a victim of violent crime in Newark sit at 1 in 110, while the average for the state of New Jersey is just 1 in 437.

Growing up in Newark, Austin said, never deterred him. Instead, it pushed him.

"That environment basically built me. It was like the jungle," Austin said. "It turned me into who I am and made me a man early. That helped raise me into the man who I am today."

Today, Austin is a workhorse for Northwest and has provisionally qualified for the Division II National meet in the 200-meter race, though he's not satisfied with the time of 21.27 seconds he posted at the David Suenram Gorilla Classic



JUWAN BUSH | SUBMITTED

Freshman sprinter Omar Austin had a strong performance at the David Suenram Classic at Pittsburg State with a time of 21.27 in the 200-meter race.

sic in Pittsburg, Kansas, April 13. Austin is preparing to compete at the Bryan Clay Invitational and Multi in Azusa, California, April 19-20.

For Austin, the prospect of qualifying for nationals and competing in California over the weekend is somewhat surreal. He was never supposed to be here, Austin said, and he credits

his arrival to his upbringing.

"I look at all my people and none of my friends from back then, none of them really be doing anything," Austin said. "Everybody in the hoods, in the gangs: they're still doing that stuff. To see I turned out to have the upper hand and doing something different than I was

supposed to do, that makes me feel good. I just keep pushing."

Even after he realized he could be an athlete at the collegiate level, Austin never planned to be a Division II track star at Northwest. At first, he wanted to play football. He starred as a defensive back in Tampa after moving there from Newark.

Austin realized his talents were better suited for track and field. Football was always more fun for the freshman, but he saw track as something of an outlet to a brighter tomorrow. He pursued it, of course, and wound up where he is now.

SEE AUSTIN | A9



AMANDA WISTUBA | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest baseball has a team ERA of 6.76 this season, contributing to its 17-19 record on the year and its five game losing streak.

## Pitching falters baseball through recent stretch

**TRENT SPINNER**  
Chief Reporter | @trentspinner

Northwest baseball went from striding to struggling as recent pitching struggles led to a Missouri Western sweep.

The Bearcats are a week and a half out from winning six of their last six March 31-April 7, but due to a lack of pitching depth, they have lost their last five.

During the past two weeks, the Bearcats (17-20, 13-11 MIAA) were on a tear sweeping Washburn and Fort Hays. All features of the game were working in their favor, but as they went down to St. Joseph everything proved to work the opposite way.

Going into the Missouri Western series, Northwest was heating up, but right as they headed south, they hit a standstill. The Griffons (17-15, 14-10 MIAA) swept the Bearcats with ease as they outscored the Bearcats 36-19 in the three-game set.

"Missouri Western played very well this past weekend, they were able to compete and put together some good comebacks late in the game," senior second baseman Mondesi Gutierrez said. "We just need to focus on our preparation and getting ourselves ready to compete every pitch."

Pitching during the previous seven-game stretch became a strong suit and then progressively became a liability against Missouri Western. Relief pitching was



UP NEXT

Northwest @ Central Missouri  
April 18-20  
Warrensburg

the main culprit of the weekend as the bullpen allowed 22 of the 36 runs to cross the plate.

One of the issues that exist for the pitching staff is allowing big innings compared to sparse scoring of the other team. Coach Darin Loe knows this issue and wants to continue to get that problem out of the way.

"The biggest thing is just trying to minimize big innings. Right now, for whatever reason, we have something bad happen... and it just snowballs on us," Loe said. "I think we gave up a six-run inning and an eight-run inning at Missouri Western, then at the very end of the weekend, we give up two in each of those, we are 2-1 on the weekend."

For the Bearcats, they established a need for a mental edge that some of the pitchers are struggling to find.

"The difficult problem is, right now you are constantly playing games with implications on the line that's why we really try to focus on the process," Loe said. "Getting wins and losses out of our head and focus on executing our pitches."

SEE BASEBALL | A9

### SPORTS BRIEF

#### Northwest alumna hired as Maryville volleyball coach

Former Northwest volleyball standout Miranda Foster has been selected as the next head coach of the Maryville volleyball team.

The Maryville R-II School District Board of Education approved the hiring of the three-time second-team all-MIAA performer at its April 15 meeting.

Foster was an outside hitter for the Bearcats from 2013-16. She surpassed both 1,000 digs and 1,000 kills in her career. She served as a graduate assistant for coach Amy Woerth's squad during the 2018 season.

She takes over for coach Marissa Felt, who led the Spoofhounds for two seasons. Maryville fell in the Class 3 District 16 semifinals in both years.

Sophomores Serena Sundell and Morgan Stoecklein received first-team All-Midland Empire Conference honors following the 2018 season.

Senior Vanessa Klotz, junior Josie Pitts and sophomores Kelsey Scott and Macy Loe were honorable mention selections.

According to the Board of Education minutes, Foster will also serve as a high school physical education teacher.

A schedule posted on MSHSAA.org slates Maryville to meet East Buchanan, Mid Buchanan, South Harrison and Plattsburg in non Midland Empire Conference competition.

The schedule also includes participation in the Bishop LeBlond Invitational in St. Joseph beginning Oct. 5.